

Town of Chapel Hill

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Susan Levy has been an advocate for local families in the Triangle region since she moved to Durham to work as a community organizer in 1978; and

WHEREAS, she has dedicated the bulk of her professional career to community organizing and affordable housing in North Carolina;

WHEREAS, In December 1992, Susan started working with Orange County Habitat for Humanity as the first executive director – a role she has filled for 26 years; and

WHEREAS, through her time at Habitat, Susan's vision has guided the organization to great achievement including construction of over 300 new homes in Orange County and 200 homes overseas; and

WHEREAS, after listening to the needs of the community, Susan led Orange County Habitat to develop a repair program to enable existing homeowners to age in place which has resulted in completion of over 130 repairs throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Susan helped create the Orange County Affordable Housing Coalition whose mission is to foster collaboration among providers and to advocate for affordable housing development and preservation in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Susan has led multiple successful advocacy efforts including the Penny for Housing campaign which ensures annual general fund allocations from the Town of Chapel Hill for affordable housing investments; and

WHEREAS, her leadership was also instrumental in voter approval of \$5 million in funding for affordable housing in Orange County's 2016 Bond Referendum and \$10 million in affordable housing funding through Chapel Hill's 2018 Bond Referendum; and

WHEREAS, Susan has also been a leader in the Northside Neighborhood Initiative which, through collaboration between UNC, the Town of Chapel Hill, and multiple nonprofit housing providers, is revitalizing a historic Chapel Hill African-American neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Susan is currently overseeing the construction of Orange Habitat's first senior (age 55+) community in Hillsborough; and

WHEREAS, through a focus on asset based community development, Susan has led Habitat and others to involve the community in helping solve their own problems and to focus on the assets and strengths of a community instead of what may seem to be lacking.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Chapel Hill Town Council do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 17th, 2018 to be

SUSAN LEVY DAY

in Chapel Hill and urge everyone to thank Susan for her tireless efforts to provide stability and self-reliance to local families.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL ON THIS THE NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN.

Pam Hemminger

